

**FIRST THINGS FIRST
PINAL REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL
STRATEGIC PLAN SUMMARY
Effective July 2009**

Strategy/Action	Description	Regional FTF Funding	Opportunities for Funding or Participation
Increase medical professional's use of recommended guidelines for preventative medical and oral health care	Formation of a regional advisory committee to Plan and Host a Annual Early Childhood Development and Health Medical (2010). First Year Strategy Components <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop an Annual Early Childhood Development and Health Medical Conference Conduct a Regional Medical Professional Survey 	\$15,000	Grant to be awarded.* Interested and committed community members and health professionals encouraged to participate.
Increase outreach to address the following critical health needs: insurance enrollment, oral health, nutrition, immunizations, and well child care (medical/dental homes)	There are three elements to this strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct health insurance outreach and enrollment assistance for eligible children. Physician and Health Provider Outreach and Education 3) Enhance or expand existing programs and services to address parent knowledge, understanding, and behavior 	\$300,000	Grant(s) to be awarded.*
Increase children's access to preventative health care by providing oral, vision, and hearing screening, education and referral	Funding to provide non-invasive vision, hearing, and dental screening, parent and/or child care provider education, and appropriate referral to local health providers.	\$500,000	Grant(s) to be awarded.*
<i>Quality First!</i> Quality Improvement and Rating System	The Pinal Regional Partnership Council is funding 13 centers and 10 child care homes. The First Things First State funds will provide enrollment to 7 center and 5 child care homes.	\$687,700	Local child care providers may apply.*
Provide Child Care Health Consultation; plan for behavioral health consultation	A Child Care Health Consultant (CCHC) is a health professional with specialized knowledge of early childhood development, child care and child care regulation, community health and social services. The Regional Council also wants to make CCHC available to 30 additional early care and education programs not enrolled in <i>Quality FIRST!</i> First Year Strategy Components <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One additional Child Care Health Consultant Conduct a study and develop a plan that identifies the best method for providing assistance to increase health and safety at lawful unregulated family homes Assess needs and design an implementation plan for addressing behavioral health concerns in early care and education settings 	\$130,000	Contract amend-ment to statewide CCHC RFP to find contractor to conduct the study

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Recruit and Support Early Care and Education Home Providers	Funding to address lawful unregulated child care homes. 12 monthly trainings to include health & safety, nutrition, developmentally appropriate practices, and best business practices. The child care home providers will participate in an initial and post-training assessment using a recognized quality assessment tool (Family Child Care Environmental Rating Scale, Revised Edition). To support homes needing improvements, supplies or training in order to become regulated, funding up to \$2,500 per home will be available.	\$355,000	Grant to be awarded.*
Develop, enhance or expand comprehensive family/parent education and support services through home-visiting to serve families with children prenatal to ages 3	The Pinal Regional Council will expand home visiting programs to other families. The primary focus of home visiting services is the promotion of effective parenting skills, which also prevents child abuse and neglect. The home visitor works with families to help them obtain necessary life skills that will result in their self-sufficiency, while modeling good parenting skills, and providing education about child development and health.	\$400,000	Grant to be awarded.*
Improve coordination of Family Support services; and provide enhancement or expansion grants to existing family support services (On Hold)	<p>The Family Support Consortium will be to ensure that all families have the information and support they need to be effective parents through a coordinated network of programs and seamless delivery of services. In order to reach this goal, the first task of the Family Support Consortium will be to identify existing programs, services and opportunities for expansion to meet the needs of families in the Pinal Region. Based upon this work and information, the Pinal Regional Partnership Council will also develop and release grants to offer family education, information, resources and support.</p> <p>Three Strategy Components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of the Family Support Consortium • Quarterly Reporting to the Regional Council • Expansion Grants 	\$250,000	<p>Grant to be awarded.*</p> <p>RFP to find contractor to conduct the facilitation of consortium and quarterly reporting</p> <p>RFGA to identify administrative home to oversee grant awards</p> <p>Local social services networks to participate and parent/children to benefit.</p>
Increase the number of tuition-based college course scholarships	<p>Three components of this strategy include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional Career Pathways Project (PCPP) college scholarships. Scholarships would be for center or family child care providers not eligible for T.E.A.C.H. • National Child Development Associate (CDA) certification process • Purchase additional T.E.A.C.H. scholarships for center based and family child care providers (Year 3) 	\$126,250	Contract amendment to statewide T.E.A.C.H., CDA & PCPP contracts

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Expand and enhance existing community based early care and education training and support for professional development (On Hold)	Through two components the grantee will provide community based trainings constructed from the six competency areas and will be provided by a Master Trainer. Second component will work directly with center director/owners, community training provider to coordinate and develop centers professional development needs. Strategy Components include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> High Quality Community Based Trainings through a Master Trainer Directors Master Trainer/ Training Coordination 	\$250,000	Grant to be awarded.*
Implement a salary incentive program to increase wages and retain the early care and education workforce	First Things First policy staff is currently researching salary enhancement models, and the Pinal Regional Partnership Council looks forward to using the model as a guide for implementation in the Pinal Region.	\$50,000.00	TBD
Coordinate and implement a regional scholarship system to recruit new professionals to the early child care workforce	Funding will expand the number of new professionals entering the early care and education workforce. Scholarships will be made available to recent high school graduates and nontraditional students (older students, career change, stay-at-home parents, and returning college students) that do not qualify for T.E.A.C.H. and Professional Career Pathways Project, because they are not currently employed in early care.	\$75,000	Grant to be awarded.*
Develop an awareness campaign about early childhood development and health and First Things First and increase awareness of programs and services through distribution of resource information (On Hold)	Specifically the Pinal Regional Partnership Council will focus on the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage families, community organizations, business, faith-based organizations, and medical institutions in community mobilization efforts to promote early childhood development and health in the region. Advocate for public policy change and increased resources on behalf of young children and their families. 	\$50,000	TBD

*For more information or to receive application information please contact: Aimee E. Kempton-Sarosi at (520) 836.5838 or email asarosi@azftf.gov

Visit the First Things First website: www.azftf.gov